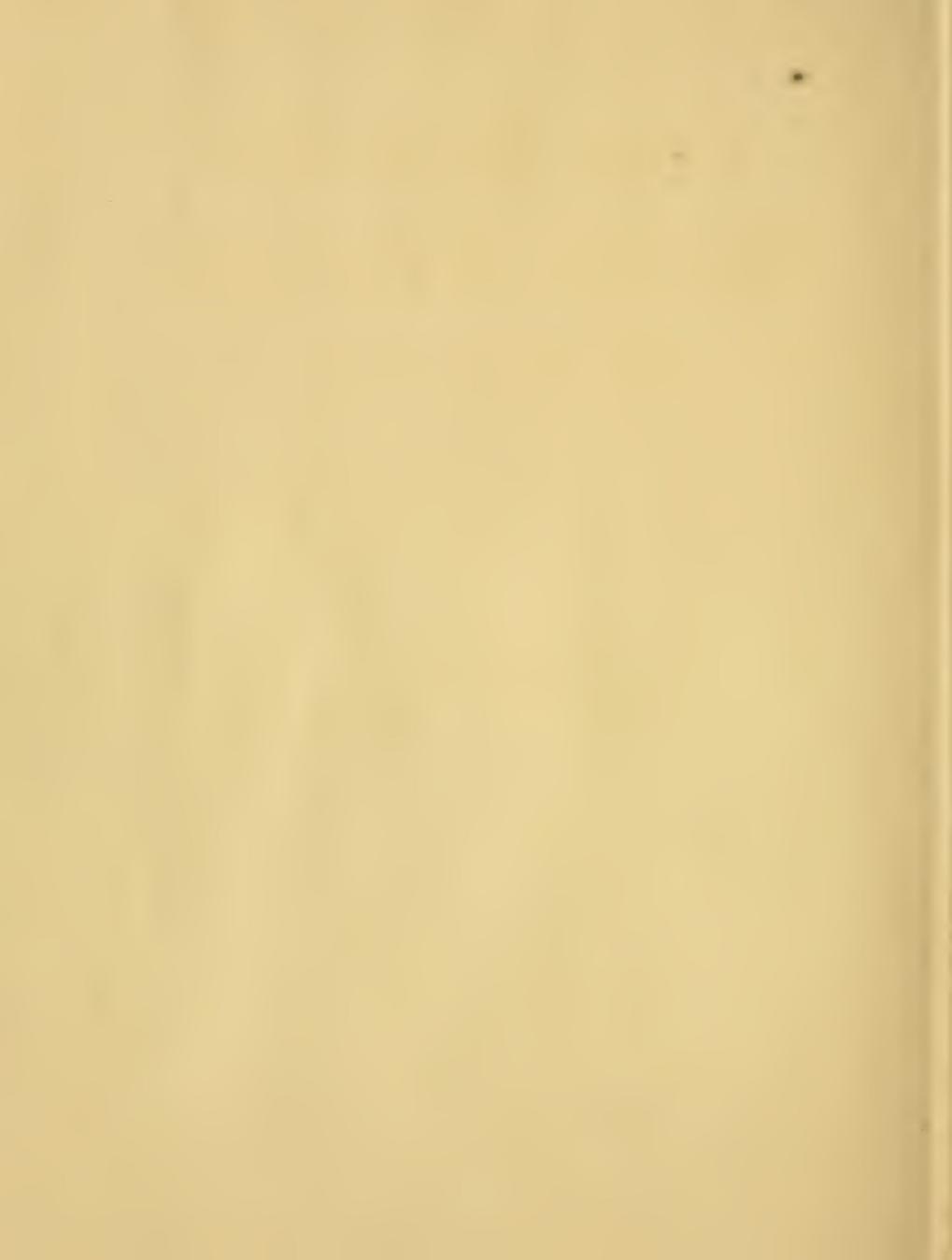


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One Sweetly Solemn Thought







One Sweetly Solemn Thought

* * By Phœbe Cary *



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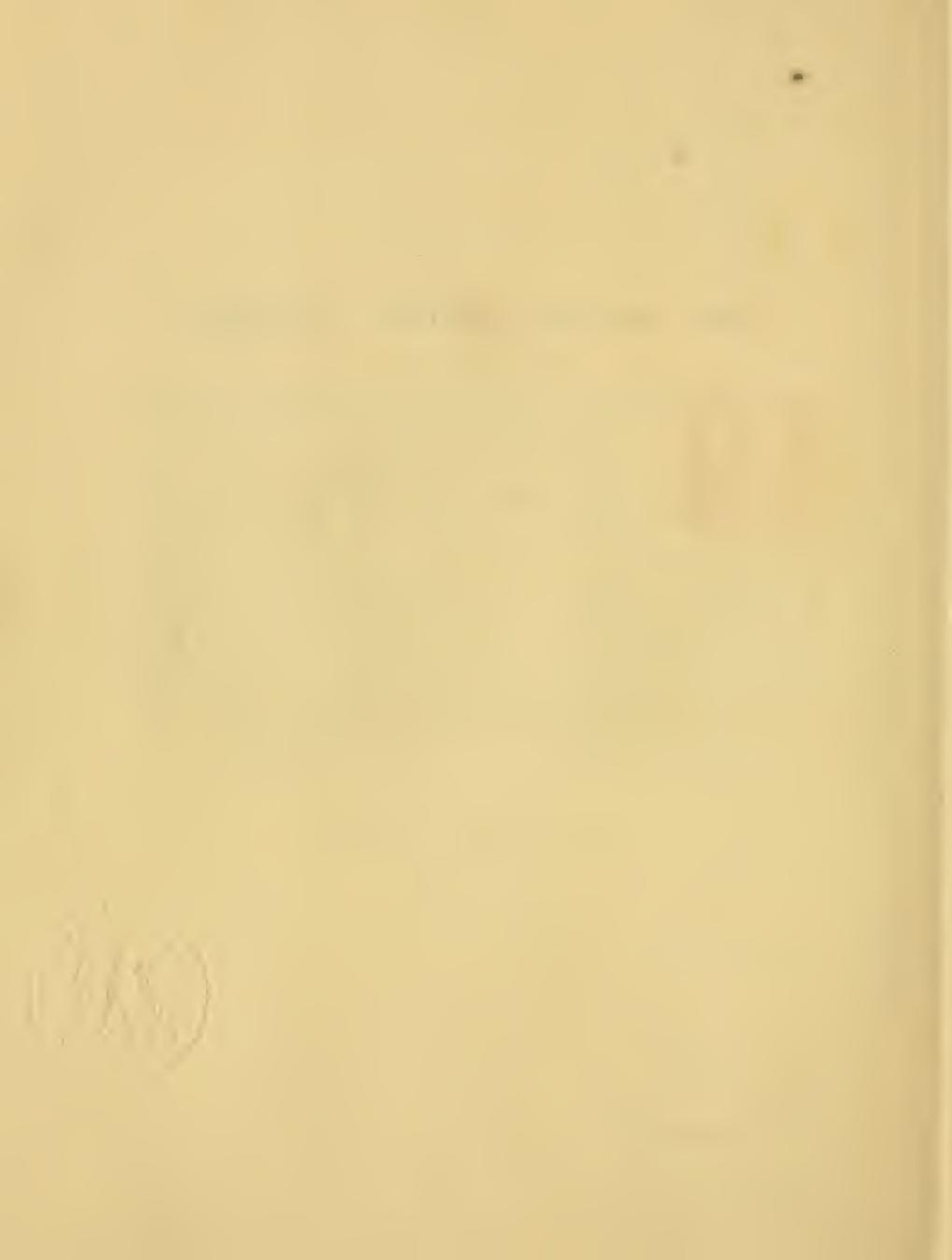
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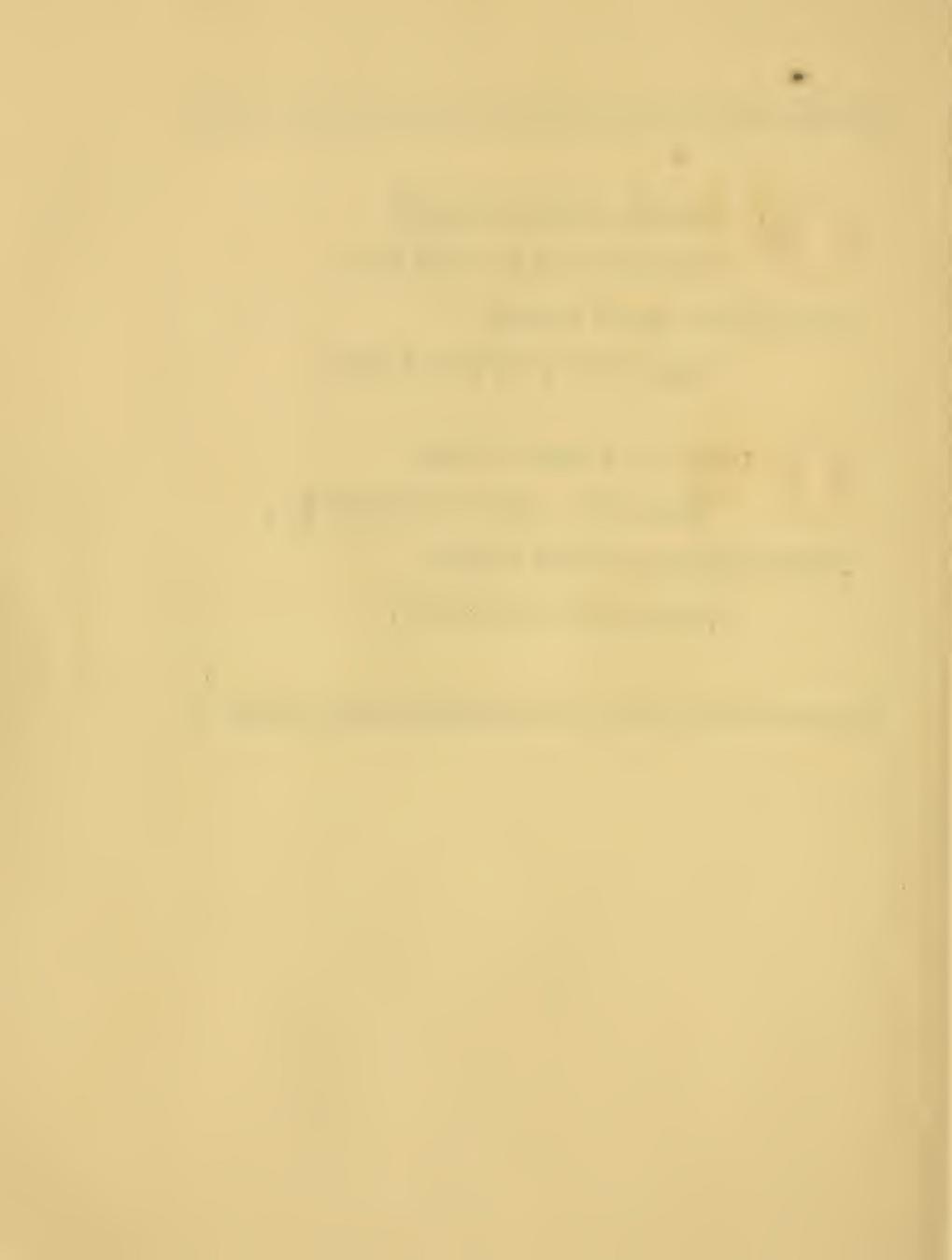
One Sweetly Solemn Thought.

PHŒBE CARY and her sister Alice were both Universalists, but their hymns have been accepted by all denominations. Of the many written by them none has had the popularity and universal adoption of "Nearer Home," written by Phœbe when she was not yet eighteen years old. It has been translated into all languages, and it is said that the mere humming of the tune to which it is sung, in a gambling den in China, was sufficient to save one of the gamblers by recalling home associations. Phœbe died (in 1871) at the age of 47, of grief at the death of her sister.



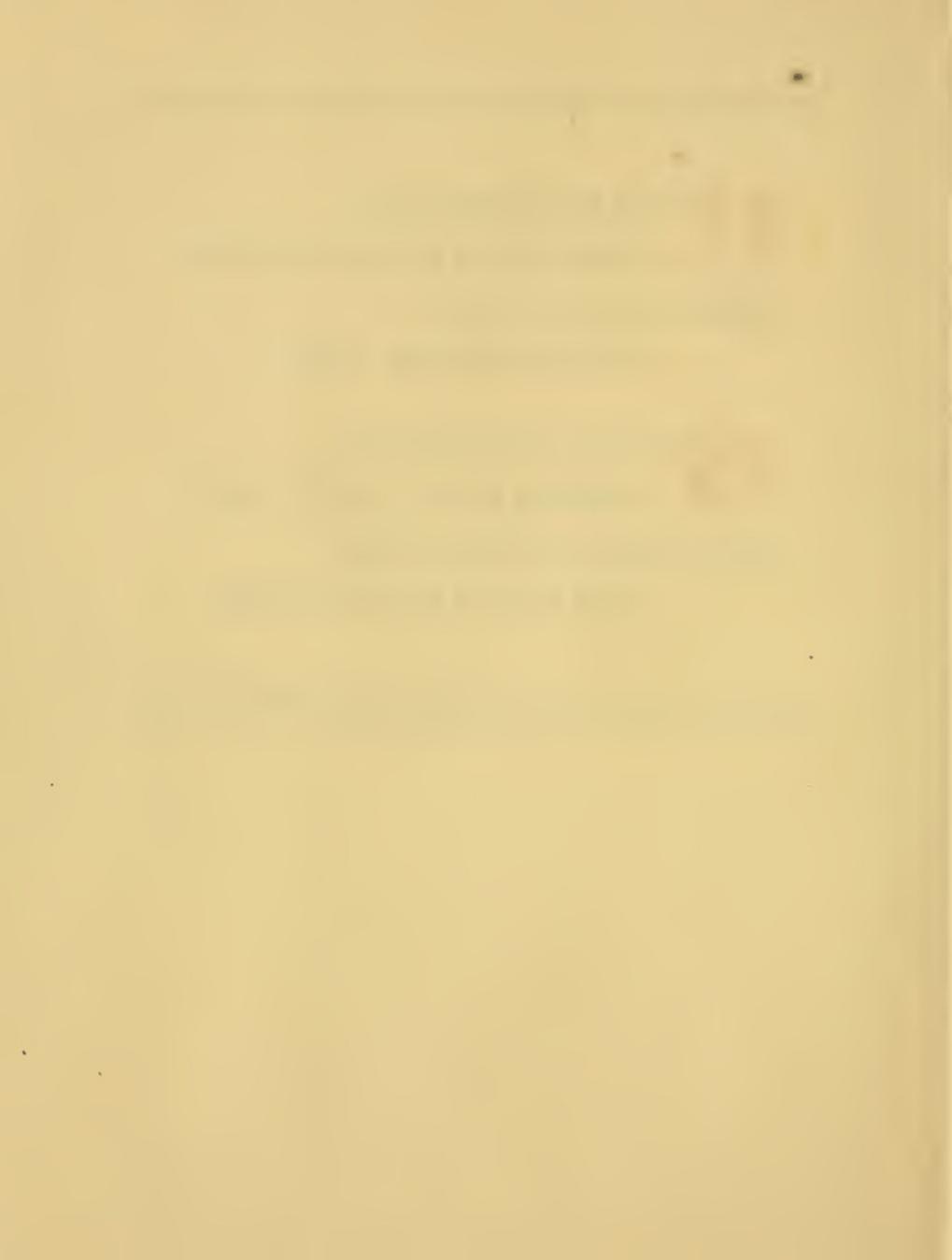
One sweetly solemn thought
Comes to me o'er and o'er :
I am nearer home to-day
Than I've ever been before.

Nearer my Father's house,
Where the many mansions be ;
Nearer the great white throne,
Nearer the crystal sea.



Nearer the bounds of life,
Where we lay our burdens down;
Nearer leaving the cross,
Nearer gaining the crown.

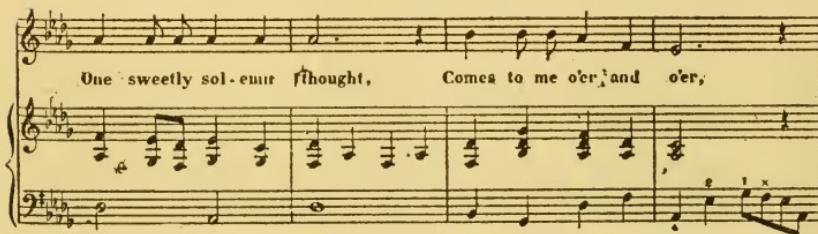
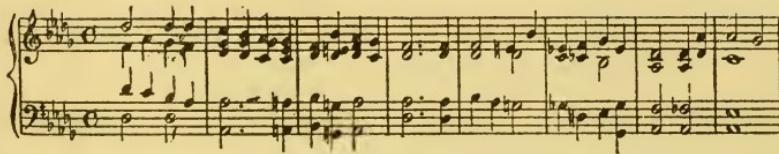
But lying darkly between,
Winding adown thro' the night,
Is the silent unknown stream,
That leads at last to the light.



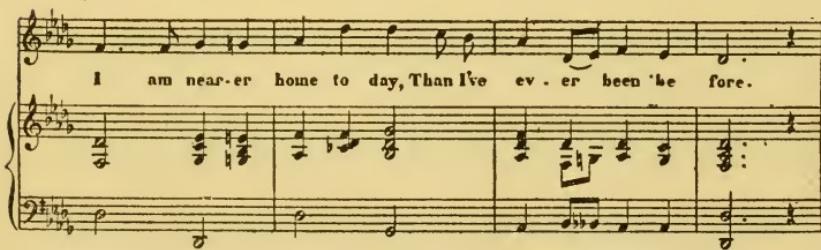
Father, be near when my feet
Are slipping o'er the brink,
For it may be I am nearer home,
Nearer now than I think.



One Sweetly Solemn Thought



One sweetly sol-e-mn thought, Comes to me o'er; and o'er;

A musical score for voice and piano. The vocal line begins with a dotted half note followed by an eighth note. The piano accompaniment consists of eighth-note chords in the bass and harmonic support in the treble. The lyrics "One sweetly sol-e-mn thought, Comes to me o'er; and o'er;" are written below the vocal line.

I am near-er home to day, Than I've ev-er been be fore.

A continuation of the musical score. The vocal line starts with a dotted half note. The piano accompaniment includes sustained notes and eighth-note chords. The lyrics "I am near-er home to day, Than I've ev-er been be fore." are written below the vocal line.

Near - er my Fa - thers house, Where the man - y mansions be,

Piano accompaniment: Measures 1-2. Treble clef, 2/4 time, key signature changes from A major to G major. Bass line provides harmonic support.

cresc.

Near - er the great white throne, Near - er the crys - tal sea..

pianissimo (pp) dynamic marking in measure 4.

Piano accompaniment: Measures 3-4. Treble clef, 2/4 time, key signature changes from G major to F# major. Bass line provides harmonic support.

Near - er the bounds of life, Where we lay our burdens down,

Piano accompaniment: Measures 5-6. Treble clef, 2/4 time, key signature changes back to A major. Bass line provides harmonic support.

Near - er leav - ing the cross, Near - er gain - ing the crown.

Piano accompaniment: Measures 7-8. Treble clef, 2/4 time, key signature changes back to G major. Bass line provides harmonic support.

But ly-ing darkly be - tween,... Winding adown thro' the night,

Is the si - lent, unknown stream, That leads at last to the light.

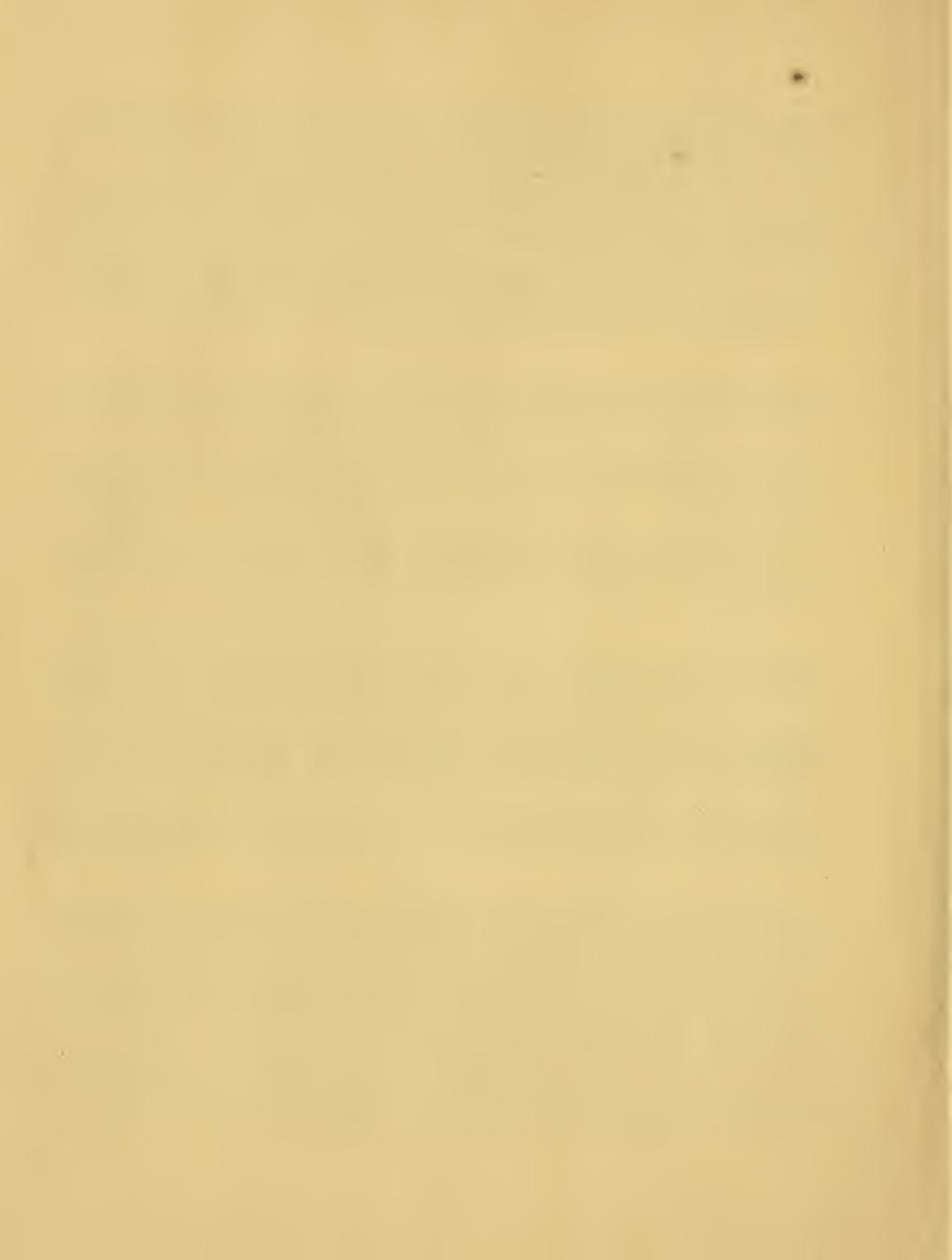
cresc.

rall

Fa - ther be near when my feet, Are slip-ping o'er the brink, For it

p

may be I am near - er home Nearer now than I think,





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